

the remainder of her duty on another ship.

As if the horrifying assault and subsequent mistreatment of Petty Officer De Roche is not heartbreaking enough, her predators didn't get the punishment they deserved. In fact, something very different. Instead of court-martialing the predators, her command decided to handle the rapes with so-called nonjudicial punishments. The punishment required the rapists to admit their crimes—so they admitted them. They got 6 months docked pay and a reduced rank for only one of the rapists. Both of the rapists were permitted to remain on active duty. When command informed Petty Officer De Roche of the outcome, they also advised her to "accept the situation" and refrain from speaking out against the lack of punishment or accountability.

Petty Officer De Roche's story, like many others, highlights a system that is unimaginable to so many of us and a system that is so clearly broken. In the military, a base commander has complete authority and discretion over how a degrading and violent assault under his command is handled. The commander can issue virtually any punishment for any reason. If they don't want a black mark on their record or their friends were accused or if they simply don't know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist.

My bill, H.R. 3435, the Sexual Assault Training Oversight and Prevention Act, the STOP Act, takes this issue and puts it in the hands of others who can handle it appropriately.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 17 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Reverend Roger Schoolcraft, Fayetteville, Arkansas, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and most high God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You led our Forefathers to weave Your presence in the fabric of our Nation. Move us also to acknowledge and trust Your presence among us daily. And although we may face many obstacles and adversities, continue to shower us with Your mercy that we may recover.

Today, we thank You for healing our Nation from the attack on Pearl Harbor 70 years ago. We are grateful for all

those who sacrifice their lives to preserve our freedom. O Lord, may we not squander it. Bless all wounded warriors, veterans and their families. Fill them and us with Your peace and joy this Christmas season.

Give us wisdom, and lead us by Your Spirit that the choices made here would result in our country united, an economy restored, and hearts grateful for Your loving care through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. QUIGLEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND ROGER SCHOOLCRAFT

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, today it is my privilege to introduce Reverend Roger Schoolcraft of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Reverend Schoolcraft retired from the ministry in 2008 after nearly 40 years in the ministry, serving congregations in Iowa, Nebraska and, most recently, in northwest Arkansas, where he led St. John's Lutheran Church in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Reverend Schoolcraft was called to the ministry in 1953 after accepting an invitation from a friend to attend a Sunday school class at St. John's Lutheran Church in Rochester, Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Schoolcraft's service extends well beyond the walls of the church. He served as campus pastor of the Lutheran Student Center at the University of Arkansas. He was a circuit counselor for 11 years and was assistant dean and dean for two national campus missionary institutes. Locally, he was president of Cooperative Emergency Outreach, secretary-treasurer of the Fayetteville Ministerial Alliance, and treasurer for the Council of Religious Organizations.

Reverend Schoolcraft is married to Deborah Steen Schoolcraft; and they have two children, Andrea and Aaron.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I want to thank Reverend Schoolcraft for his long-

standing devotion to the ministry, the churches he has served, and his fellow man.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches from each side of the aisle.

WHAT A GAME

(Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the gentleman from Illinois, Congressman RANDY HULTGREN, on winning our friendly wager on the MAC football championship game last Friday. The participants in the game, Ohio University and Northern Illinois University, are located in the districts that we are privileged to represent.

The game was an instant classic. Both teams left everything on the field and gave it their all and, in the process, made their universities and their fans proud.

The OU Bobcats jumped out to an early lead, but the Huskies of Northern Illinois fought back. They showed their toughness and won the game on the game's final play. Another way to say it is that OU won the first half and that Northern Illinois won the second half. Both teams were worthy of participation in the game, but it's a shame that either team had to come out on the losing end.

I am very proud of the OU Bobcats, and I look forward to watching both teams compete in their bowl games and represent their schools in the same fashion they did last Friday night.

Congratulations to Congressman HULTGREN.

SUPPORT THE PAYROLL TAX EXTENSION

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. A huge tax increase is looming unless this House takes action immediately. Unless this House takes action in the next few weeks, a typical American household earning \$50,000, \$60,000 a year will see a tax increase of \$1,000 a year on payroll taxes—yes, Madam Speaker, a \$1,000 tax increase for middle class families, many of whom have not seen any raises or increases for several years due to the recession.

People who are struggling to support their families will see a \$1,000 tax increase if this body does not act in the next several weeks. This is a tax increase that most families haven't budgeted for and haven't prepared for. They